

FBI Practices Evidence Collection at DHEL

The KDHE Division of Health and Environmental Laboratories (DHEL) will play a very important role if an act of terrorism ever takes place in Kansas. DHEL has partnered with the FBI and the Civil Support Team (CST) in many ways in the past to prepare for several terrorism scenarios, especially in the area of training.

Most recently the FBI used Forbes Field Building 740 to practice evidence collection. Simulated laboratories were set up by DHEL in the Microbiology, Chemistry and Radiation Chemistry sections, to represent a crime scene in laboratory settings.

This past summer, the CST used the same vacant area at Forbes to set up a training run for their members to practice the skills needed for detecting dangerous substances. By providing staging and expert input to these first responder and law enforcement teams, DHEL is helping prepare them for several scenarios they may face in real life.

DHEL hopes to continue to provide drills and training challenges to assist in all-hazards preparedness for these important partners in preventing acts of terrorism, protecting Kansans if an act happens, and capturing and prosecuting the terrorists.

“It is really nice to have partners like Sue Riley, Dr. Duane Boline, and the DHEL team to assist us in keeping our skills current. We are all on the same team, but have different responsibilities when an incident occurs, and various agencies must be able to work together to solve the problem,” said FBI Special Agent Mike Miller.



FBI agents practice evidence collection techniques during January field exercises at the Kansas Department of Health and Environmental Laboratories. The single exercise simulated various crime and terrorist scenes for agents and support teams to review and drill procedures for collecting evidence.